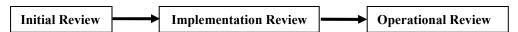


NASA's Earth Science Data Systems Groups anticipate that effective adoption of standards will play an increasingly vital role in the success of future science data systems. **The Earth Science Data Systems Standards Process Group (SPG)**, a board composed of Earth Science Data Systems stakeholders, directs the process for both identification of appropriate standards and subsequent adoption for use by the Earth Science Data Systems stakeholders. Your project or institute will benefit from this process because common community standards facilitate:

- Easier sharing or exchanging of data among distributed partners and users,
- Distributed systems development and sharing of software and technical expertise,
- Reducing the cost of developing or maintaining a system.
- Increasing the use of scientific data products and bringing more funding.
- Interoperability and enhancing innovation, collaboration, and computing performance.

Proposed standards are submitted by practitioners within the NASA community. These are evaluated in three phases by the SPG and the broader community to assess workability of implementation and success of operation.



The Standards Process Group (SPG) solicits your suggestions for identifying relevant Earth Science data systems components (e.g., interfaces, file formats, metadata content, data discovery and access protocols, science content, and naming conventions) where standardization could be beneficial. We are mainly looking for works / practices that are home-grown and have been successful in some science community use. Your input will help us to advance a formal process to identify and adopt standards that are of high interest to the Earth Science Data Systems stakeholder community.

Call for Reviewers. We are looking for people to review proposed standards and to collaborate with Technical Working Groups (TWGs). Please let us know if you are willing to participate in the standards review process.

Expected Outcomes

- Decisions of the Standards Process Group are recommendations to NASA management.
 Management will accept and apply the recommendations depending on the strength of demonstrated support and benefit.
- Future NASA data systems components will be judged partly on how well they interoperate using community-identified standards and practices.
- Data systems implementers will depart from community practices when justified by greater benefit.

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